

## ABSTRACT

In a repeater device, a priority order determining unit allocates priority orders to signatures stored in a signature list. The signatures can be generated signatures that are generated automatically and set signatures that are set by a person. When allocating the priority order, the priority order determining unit allocates a higher priority order to set signatures than the generated signatures. Upon receiving a packet, a filtering unit selects the signature with the highest priority order from among the signatures in the signature list, judges whether the packet satisfies the selected signature, and controls passage of the packet based on the result.